Attorney's Docket: 2000DE402D
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification and the claims to attend to housekeeping and to place the Application in proper form for examination. In the specification, the formula for alkylphenol/formaldehyde resins shown at the top of page 33 and the 2-line description were amended to correct an obvious typographical error in the placement of a left-bracket. The formula now properly describes such alkylphenol/formaldehyde resins, particularly when p is zero and the ring structure becomes an alkyl phenol group and the -OIR52lp- now properly refers to the ethoxy/propoxy group. Support for this amendment may be found in Applicant's Specification on pages 32 and 33, wherein the formula is disclosed to be an alkylphenol/formaldehyde resin over the entire range of p=0 to p=50. It is believed that no new matter has been added by this amendment. Claims 1, 4-9 and 11 were amended to conform to US practice to place the claims in proper form for examination. In claim 1, the nitrogen species of component A) were deleted. In dependent claims 4-9 and 11, minor amendments of a formal nature were made to be consistent with amended claim 1 from which they depend. In dependent claims 5 and 7. Markush groups were provided to properly refer to elements of components A and B. In claim 11, the typographical error noted hereinabove was corrected to properly refer to the ethoxy/propoxy group over the range of p=0 to p=50. It is believed that no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

Respectfully submitted.

Richard P. Silverman, Agent for Applicant Registration No. 36.277

(CUSTOMER NUMBER 25,255) CLARIANT CORPORATION INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

4000 Monroe Road Charlotte, NC 28205 Phone (704) 331-7156 Fax (704) 331-7707